

WEEK EIGHT  
ALABAMA AT TENNESSEE

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. -- Tua Tagovailoa threw touchdown passes to four receivers and No. 1 Alabama started fast again in a 58-21 victory over Tennessee on Saturday.

Alabama had touchdowns on its first four possessions while outscoring Tennessee 28-0 and outgaining the Volunteers 217-6 in the opening period. Alabama has outscored opponents 165-31, and Tennessee has been outscored 69-16 in first quarters this season.

Tagovailoa went 19 of 29 for 306 yards before giving way to Jalen Hurts midway through the third quarter with Alabama ahead 51-14. Tagovailoa took a big hit on his final play of the day, a 51-yard touchdown pass to Henry Ruggs III.

"Tua had a good day," Alabama coach Nick Saban said. I know everybody's going to want to know, (and) he was fine. He could have gone back to the game if he needed to go back to the game, but we were about ready to put Jalen in anyway. I'm just really, really pleased."

Earlier, Tagovailoa connected on touchdown passes to Jerry Jeudy, Jaylen Waddle and Irv Smith Jr. The Heisman Trophy contender has thrown 25 touchdown passes without an interception this season.

Alabama (8-0, 5-0 Southeastern Conference) beat Tennessee (3-4, 1-3) for the 12th straight year and had the highest points total either team has ever recorded in the 101-game history of the series. Alabama is scoring 54.1 points per game and entered the weekend leading all Football Bowl Subdivision teams in that category.

Tennessee quarterback Keller Chryst went 9 of 15 for 164 yards with two touchdown passes after replacing starter Jarrett Guarantano, who got hit by linebacker Mack Wilson midway through the second quarter and never took another snap.

Alabama grabbed a 21-0 lead less than seven minutes into the game.

"There's some guys we have on our team that this game was way too big for," said Tennessee coach Jeremy Pruitt, who spent the last two seasons as Alabama's defensive coordinator. "I think everybody was able to see that."

Tagovailoa capitalized on outstanding protection to cap the first series of the game by throwing an 11-yard pass to Jeudy in the right corner of the end zone, the sophomore's 10th touchdown catch of the season.

Xavier McKinney then sacked Guarantano and knocked the ball loose, with Christian Miller recovering the fumble at the Tennessee 3. That turnover set up a 3-yard touchdown run by Josh Jacobs, who also had a 2-yard score in the second quarter.

After Tennessee went three-and-out on its next possession, Tagovailoa threw a perfect pass to Waddle, who caught the ball just beyond midfield and raced into the end zone for a 77-yard touchdown. Damien Harris' 3-yard touchdown run capped a 93-yard drive that made it 28-0 with 3:31 left in the first quarter.

TAKEAWAYS

Alabama: After spending the first half of the season as unquestionably the nation's most dominating team, Alabama gets two weeks to prepare for its Nov. 3 showdown at No. 5 LSU. The Tide's lopsided victory over Pruitt and Tennessee continued a trend. Tide coach Nick Saban owns a 15-0 record during his Alabama tenure when he's facing one of his former assistants. Three of those victories came this year, as Alabama also beat Jimbo Fisher of Texas A&M and Billy Napier of Louisiana-Lafayette.

Tennessee: The Vols must learn to play better at the start of games. Tennessee's lack of discipline early was a concern, as the Vols committed a few personal fouls early and had cornerback Alontae Taylor ejected in the first quarter. The Vols also had a brutal sequence early in the third quarter, as an illegal fair catch on the second-half kickoff backed them up to their own 3 before Chryst tripped over a lineman's legs and fell into the end zone for a safety.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
ALA	28	14	16	0	58
TENN	0	14	7	0	21

Scoring Summary -----

	ALA	TENN
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>		
ALA TD 10:58		
Jerry Jeudy 11 Yd pass from Tua Tagovailoa (Joseph Bulovas Kick)	7	0
9 plays, 58 yards, 4:02		
ALA TD 10:35		
Josh Jacobs 3 Yd Run (Joseph Bulovas Kick)	14	0
2 plays, 3 yards, 0:08		
ALA TD 8:08		
Jaylen Waddle 77 Yd pass from Tua Tagovailoa (Joseph Bulovas Kick)	21	0
1 play, 77 yards, 0:11		
ALA TD 3:31		
Damien Harris 3 Yd Run (Joseph Bulovas Kick)	28	0
9 plays, 93 yards, 2:44		
<b>SECOND QUARTER</b>		
TENN TD 7:21		
Ty Chandler 10 Yd pass from Keller Chryst (Brent Cimaglia Kick)	28	7
5 plays, 75 yards, 2:51		
ALA TD 4:23		
Josh Jacobs 2 Yd Run (Joseph Bulovas Kick)	35	7
8 plays, 43 yards, 2:58		
TENN TD 2:18		
Tyler Byrd 20 Yd pass from Keller Chryst (Brent Cimaglia Kick)	35	14
6 plays, 81 yards, 2:05		
ALA TD 0:15		
Irv Smith Jr. 9 Yd pass from Tua Tagovailoa (Joseph Bulovas Kick)	42	14
9 plays, 85 yards, 2:03		
<b>THIRD QUARTER</b>		
ALA SF 14:52		
Team Safety	44	14
1 play, -3 yards, 0:08		
ALA TD 12:53		
Henry Ruggs III 41 Yd pass from Tua Tagovailoa (Joseph Bulovas Kick)	51	14
4 plays, 54 yards, 1:59		
TENN TD 5:17		
Kyle Phillips 27 Yd Interception Return (Brent Cimaglia Kick)	51	21
2 plays, 3 yards, 0:50		
ALA TD 1:03		
Jalen Hurts 21 Yd Run (Joseph Bulovas Kick)	58	21
8 plays, 70 yards, 4:14		

Team Stats	ALA	TENN
First Downs	30	13
Total Yards	545	258
Total Plays	74	55
Avg Gain Per Play	7.4	4.7
Net Yards Rushing	218	31
Rushes	42	30
Yards Per Rush	5.2	1.0
Net Yards Passing	327	227
Comp-Att	21-32	14-25
Yards Per Pass	10.2	9.1
Times Sacked	0	3
Yds Lost To Sacks	0	-30
Interceptions	1	0
Punts	2	6
Punt Average	41.0	38.0
Penalties	5	9
Penalty Yards	36	59
Fumbles	0	3
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Possession	32:33	27:27

Individual Stats

RUSHING					
ALA	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Josh Jacobs	12	68	5.7	2	16
Brian Robinson Jr.	13	60	4.6	0	20
Najee Harris	9	50	5.6	0	14
Jalen Hurts	2	24	12.0	1	21
Damien Harris	3	12	4.0	1	5
Tua Tagovailoa	1	6	6.0	0	6
Team	2	-2	-1.0	0	0
TENN	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Tim Jordan	14	50	3.6	0	11
Ty Chandler	9	21	2.3	0	9
Team	1	-2	-2.0	0	0
Keller Chryst	1	-3	-3.0	0	0
Madre London	2	-5	-2.5	0	0
Jarrett Guarantano	3	-30	-10.0	0	0

PASSING

ALA	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Tua Tagovailoa	19	29	306	10.6	4	0	93.7
Jalen Hurts	2	3	21	7.0	0	1	87.0
TENN	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Keller Chryst	9	15	164	10.9	2	0	94.2
Jarrett Guarantano	5	10	63	6.3	0	0	3.5

RECEIVING

ALA	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Jaylen Waddle	4	117	29.3	1	77
Jerry Jeudy	5	72	14.4	1	31
Henry Ruggs III	3	65	21.7	1	41
Irv Smith Jr.	5	50	10.0	1	25
Damien Harris	1	11	11.0	0	11
Derek Kief	1	9	9.0	0	9
Josh Jacobs	1	2	2.0	0	2
Najee Harris	1	1	1.0	0	1
TENN	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Jauan Jennings	6	102	17.0	0	40
Ty Chandler	3	39	13.0	1	26
Josh Palmer	1	30	30.0	0	30
Brandon Edward Johnson	1	27	27.0	0	27
Tyler Byrd	1	20	20.0	1	20
Tim Jordan	1	7	7.0	0	7
Eli Wolf	1	2	2.0	0	2